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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

9 November 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Man Who Allegedly Threatened Mass Shooting if Biden Won Arrested

(U) An LA-area man who took to social media to threaten a mass shooting if Joe Biden won the presidential election has been taken into custody. The man was detained after being stopped in a vehicle and handcuffed Friday by members of a task force of federal and local law enforcement agencies, the sources said. FBI Investigators were searching his home for evidence of any means he has to carry out any form of attack, according to officials.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Los Angeles Times

(U) San Jose – COVID-19 Themed Cyber Attacks Increase 605% in Second Quarter of 2020, Experts Say (U) COVID-19-related attack detections increased by 605% in Q2 compared to Q1 of 2020, according to McAfee's Quarterly Threats Report: November 2020. The security software company also revealed it had observed an average of 419 new threats per minute in this period, with overall new malware samples rising by 11.5%. The continued rise of malicious Donoff Microsoft Office documents helped drive new PowerShell malware by 117% as well as a 103% increase in overall new Microsoft Office malware by 103%.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Infosecurity Magazine

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – 300 Migrant Human Remains Found at Southwest Border in Fiscal Year 2019

(U) Tucson – US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reported that they have discovered the remains of at least 300 people, likely all migrants, along the Southwest border in fiscal year 2019. In addition to the 30 October CBP report, the Medical Examiner's Office in Pima County, Arizona has recovered 3,081 dead bodies since 2000, "but as of 31 December 2019, 1,111 decedents remain unidentified," according to the CBP.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, CNS News

(U) Mexico – Remains of Missing California Firefighter Found by Authorities in Mexico

(U) Baja California – The human remains of a Los Angeles firefighter was discovered in Mexico, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. Francisco "Frank" Aguilar went missing on 20 August during a trip to his condominium near Rosarito, a coastal border city. In early October, Mexican authorities arrested 32-year-old Fanny N. and 27-year-old Santos N. on suspicion of kidnapping. It was not immediately clear if they would be charged in Aguilar's death.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Mercury News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Minnesota – 'Boogaloo Bois' Face New Charges for Trying to Sell Guns to Hamas

(U) Minneapolis – After trying to capitalize on the civil unrest in Minneapolis this summer, two members of the anti-government Boogaloo Bois attempted to sell untraceable machine guns and unregistered

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silencers to Hamas, an international terrorist group. According to a new indictment announced by federal prosecutors in Minnesota on Friday, the weapons were intended to be used in attacks against United States and Israeli soldiers overseas.

SOURCE: 7 November 2020, Star Tribune

(U) New York - Authorities Seize \$1 Billion in Bitcoins Supposedly from Silk Road

(U) New York – Federal agents this week seized more than \$1 billion worth of bitcoins linked to the now-defunct Silk Road website, a criminal marketplace on the dark web, in what may be the Justice Department's largest-ever seizure of cryptocurrency. The Justice Department said it is moving to have the 69,370 bitcoins — valued at more than \$15,000 apiece — forfeited to the government, according to court documents. The bitcoins once belonged to Silk Road's founder, Ross Ulbricht, who was sentenced to life in prison in 2015.

SOURCE: 7 November 2020, CNN

(U) Oregon - Man Accused of Producing ISIS Propaganda Arrested

(U) Portland – A federal indictment has accused an Oregon man of advocating violent jihad in an online Arabic newspaper in support of the terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Hawazen Sameer Mothafar, 31, was arrested Thursday morning, federal authorities said. Mothafar pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiracy to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization, providing and attempting to provide material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization, making false statements on an immigration application and making a false statement to a government agency.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, The Republic

(U) Pennsylvania – Armed QAnon Followers Arrested in Alleged Convention Center Threat

(U) Philadelphia – Two men arrested over an alleged threat to Philly's ballot-counting center have been linked to far-right groups affiliated with Virginia State Senator Amanda Chase, a Republican Trump supporter and challenger in next year's gubernatorial election. Philadelphia police responded to a tip from the FBI that an armed group was traveling to the city. Commissioner Danielle Outlaw said officers spotted their vehicle, sporting Virginia plates and decals promoting the right-wing conspiracy theory known as QAnon, near the Pennsylvania Convention Center, where mail ballots are still being tabulated for the November election. Officers detained a 61-year-old man for carrying a weapon without a permit and a 42-year-old man for failure to hold a Pennsylvania concealed carry license. The men also gave consent to search their vehicle, which contained an AR-15 style rifle with a missing serial number and ammunition. On Friday afternoon, District Attorney Larry Krasner announced his intent to pursue related firearms and, possibly, election code violations-related charges against the two men. SOURCE: 7 November 2020, PBS News

(U) Vermont – Hospital Network Hit by Cyber Attack Restoring Services

(U) Burlington – Computer experts at the University of Vermont Medical Center are working to restore systems disabled in a cyberattack that has affected the hospital's ability to provide some cancer treatments. Meanwhile, information technology teams have been able to access patient schedules at all network affiliates in Vermont and New York for the next few days. Work will continue retrieving schedules until all systems are restored.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Associated Press

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Austria – Government Shuts Down Mosque After Vienna Terror Attack

(U) Vienna – Austrian authorities have shut down a mosque and an Islamic association frequented by the man who killed four people in a terror attack in Vienna earlier this week. Integration Minister Susanne Raab and Interior Minister Karl Nehammer announced the closure of the Tewhid Mosque in Vienna and the Melit Ibrahim Association on Friday, following a meeting with the president of Austria's Islamic Faith Community, local media reported. The decision came after a 20-year-old supporter of ISIS went on a deadly rampage in the Austrian capital on Monday night, killing four. The attacker was shot dead by police.

SOURCE: 7 November 2020, Politico

(U) France – Seven Charged with Selling Virus Test Documents at Airport

(U) Paris – Officials in France said Friday that seven people have been arrested for selling false certificates of negative COVID-19 tests to travelers at Paris's largest airport, Charles de Gaulle. The six men and one-woman ages 29 to 52 were charged with forgery, use of forgery, and complicity in fraud. The Bobigny prosecutor's office said the faked certificates were being sold to travelers for 150 to 300 euros (\$180 to \$360).

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, News 957

(U) Greece – Report Suggests Hundreds of ISIS Members in Greece and Cyprus

(U) Athens – 600 members of ISIS are in Greece and dozens are in Cyprus, according to a respected Greek journalist. Savvas Kalenteridis in a radio interview made the announcement when discussing the arrest of a Tajik jihadist in the southern Greek city of Tripoli. While discussing the arrest of the Tajik, accused of being an ISIS leader, Kalenteridis said that there is evidence of the presence of hundreds of ISIS members in Greece and dozens in Cyprus, some of whom beheaded people in Syria and Iraq. SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Greek City Times

(U) Turkey - 32 Terrorist Suspects Arrested

(U) Ankara – At least 32 Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) suspects were arrested Friday in two separate operations against the terror group, according to a security source in Turkey. Six of the suspects were arrested in an operation against the hackers operating within the terror group. Ankara intelligence and anti-terror teams, and anti-cyber teams of police in the capital city found that hackers were gathered under the name of "Mesopotamia Hackers" in line with so-called congress decision of the terror group, said a source on condition of anonymity.

SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Anadolu Agency

(U) United Kingdom - Teenaged Neo-Nazi 'Obsessed' with Mass Shootings Jailed for Terrorism Plot

(U) Rugby – Paul Dunleavy, 17, was jailed for five-and-a-half years for preparing acts of terrorism by researching how to convert a blank-firing gun into a live weapon and providing "advice and encouragement" to others online. Dunleavy communicated with fellow neo-Nazis online and joined the Feuerkrieg Division (FKD) group that was later banned as a terrorist organization. In an online test to join the organization, he wrote that Jewish people "must be eradicated", called fascism "the pursuit of restoring the natural order," and said he wanted to "go out there and provoke" a race war. SOURCE: 6 November 2020, Independent

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